

PROOF

Announcement



The Centenary of Medical Missions

1820 — CENTENARY — 1920

1870 — JUBILEE — 1920

And Him evermore I behold
Walking in Galilee,
Through the cornfield's waving gold,
In hamlet, in wood and in wold,
By the shores of the Beautiful Sea.
He toucheth the sightless eyes;
Before Him the demons flee;
To the dead He saith: Arise!
To the living: Follow me!
And the voice still soundeth on
From the centuries that are gone,
To the centuries that shall be!

Christus—Longfellow.

THE Committee of Reference and Counsel of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America has approved the appointment of a Committee of One Hundred to arrange for a suitable celebration of the Centenary of Medical Missions.

The celebration will not take the form of a campaign or drive for funds. It aims to enlighten the church regarding this great need which it has never adequately met, to call into service over seas young men and women who may be able to go with the Gospel of healing, and to set new tasks for the thousands of men and women who met so nobly the appeals for mercy during the war.

In 1819 Rev. John Scudder, M.D., sailed, with his wife, for India, beginning his work in Ceylon early in the year 1820. The story of the Scudders is a marvelous one. Children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren have followed in the steps of John Scudder, this one family giving in four generations a thousand years of missionary service, for the greater part in India.

This year, 1920, also marks a Jubilee. Clara Swaim, M.D., sailed for India in 1870 as pioneer medical missionary for the women of India, who were then, as now, secluded and prevented from receiving medical aid from men.

The great outstanding need of all our Foreign Mission Boards today is for medical men and women to carry on this work of compassion in foreign lands in the name of our Master. These recruits cannot be secured by ordinary methods of propaganda or organization. This committee would therefore recommend that all churches and Christians throughout our country unite in prayer on the third Sunday in March that the Spirit of God will send forth the men and women needed for His service. It is suggested that a sermon be preached Sunday morning or evening on the Compassion of Christ, to be followed by prayer that this same spirit of compassion may come upon all the followers of Christ today.

It is hoped that a union meeting may be held in every town some evening during the latter part of the month of March. For such meetings a complete program has been arranged, entitled, "Crusaders of Compassion." This program will include brief historical sketches by Mrs. Caroline Atwater Mason, an interview by Rev. Cornelius H. Patton, D.D., who has recently returned from the East, a poster presentation, a dramatic interlude, "The Doctor's Dilemma," by Mrs. E. C. Cronk, and "A Call to the Task," by Robert E. Speer, with suitable hymns and suggested Scripture reading.

This program may be used in the mid-week prayer service or at the Sunday evening service if a union meeting does not seem possible. In the larger cities committees will arrange for mass meetings, with addresses by leaders from Mission Boards and fields. To such meetings medical men and women and Red Cross workers should be especially invited.

In addition to this celebration, items and articles will appear in the secular and religious press.

The Committee earnestly requests all who are interested in extending this work of compassion to all the world in the name of Christ to secure the literature and carry out the plans.

Boards of Missions Women's Societies, individuals, all help to make this not merely the celebration of great historical events but the beginning of a Crusade of Compassion to the ends of the earth.

"Poor sad Humanity
Through all the dust and heat,
Turns back with bleeding feet
By the weary road it came,
Unto the simple thought
By the great Master taught,
And that remaineth still,
Not he that repeateth the name,
But he that doeth the will."

Note. — Literature, including program posters, may be ordered from your Board of Foreign Missions or the Committee of Reference and Counsel, 25 Madison Ave., New York City.

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